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COUNTRY, East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Stendal-Borstel Airfield

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

6 May 1953

REFERENCES

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PAGES 3

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

2 - sketches on ditto

REMARKS

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1. Air activity observed at Stendal-Borstel airfield from 5 March through 14 April 1953 included:

5 March. There was intensive local training activity by about 8 Il-10s in the morning. Another 12 Il-10s taxied from a hangar to the take-off point. All the planes involved in air activity had a new coat of green paint. About 25 Il-10s painted dark green were parked in two rows in the northeastern corner of the installation. Flying discontinued in the afternoon.

8 March. About 1:30 p.m., a total of 30 Il-10s approached the installation in small formations from the east and landed individually.

12 March. There was air activity by Il-10s painted both light and dark green. A powerful searchlight was observed near the hangars.

18 March. Between 11 a.m. and noon, four groups of four Il-10s each painted light green took off for formation flying.

25 through 28 March. School flying was daily practiced by biplanes.

29 March. No air activity was observed in strong wind. Two rows of about 25 Il-10s were seen parked in the northeastern corner of the installation.

4 and 14 April. Seventeen Il-10s were observed at the field; others were believed parked in hangars.

8 and 11 April. There was heavy day flying by individual Il-10s. Night flying was also conducted.

2. An old wire fence extended from the northeastern corner of the installation as far as the athletic field, while the airfield boundary from there to the northwestern corner of the field was secured by a board fence 2 meters high. The view of the quartering buildings and the hangars was obstructed by trees. The northern boundary of the installation was immediately south of the paved road from Borstel to Vorwerk Karolinenhof. A concrete strip crossing the road was observed west of the patch of woods. A storage area about 150 x 200 meters surrounded by a board fence and guarded by a sentry was observed in the wooded area between the northwestern corner of the field

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25X1 and the railroad line. [] ammunition was being stored there. Ruts of tracked vehicles led from the dump to the Karolinenhof Vorwerk (estate). Four single-story wooden buildings were seen at the western edge of the woods north of the target range. The patch of wood southeast of the target range was almost completely logged off.²

3. Air activity observed at the field from 14 March to 5 April included:

14 March. There was heavy flying by single-engine low-wing monoplanes fitted with in-line engines. Weather was 3/10 overcast, visibility good.

17 March. Night flying was done from 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. The airfield lights were in operation.

27 March. Night flying was practiced from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. A searchlight was in operation south of the middle hangar.

25X1 1 April. [] 6 single-engine low-wing monoplanes and 2 biplanes flying circles over the field. Another 14 single-engine low-wing monoplanes were parked in front of the middle hangar.

25X1 5 April. [] 23 single-engine low-wing monoplanes fitted with in-line engines parked in front of the hangars. Maintenance work was being done on the planes. From 8:30 to 9 a.m. a tank truck continuously proceeded from the hangars to the aircraft revetments at the southern edge of the field. Preparations were being made for air activity.¹

25X1 4. [] an AAA emplacement east of the field.³ A radio installation was located west of the Stendal-Borstel highway. []

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[] 5. From 5 to 6 p.m. on 3 April [] 30 canvas covered Il-10s parked in front of the hangars of the field. From 5:30 to 5:32 p.m., 3 Il-10s took off. Four trucks mounting searchlights [] 3 tank trucks, 1 ambulance, 2 radio trucks and 1 mobile flight control station were observed at the south side of the field. In the evening hours [] individual Il-10s crossing the field with their position lights burning. A searchlight was in operation at the field. Lamps 20 meters apart had been set up from east to west in the middle of the landing field. An antenna tower was observed at the northern edge of the installation. The cables leading to the tower had double the strength of the bracing wires. []

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25X1 1. [] Comment. Stendal-Borstel airfield is still believed to be occupied by an air reconnaissance and a ground attack regiment equipped with Il-10s. Some of these Il-10s are usually parked in the hangars.

25X1 2. [] Comment. For layout sketch of the field, see Annex 1.

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3.  Comment. The AAA emplacement observed is occupied by 6 x 37-mm guns.

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4.  Comment. For sketch of the radio installation, see Annex 2.

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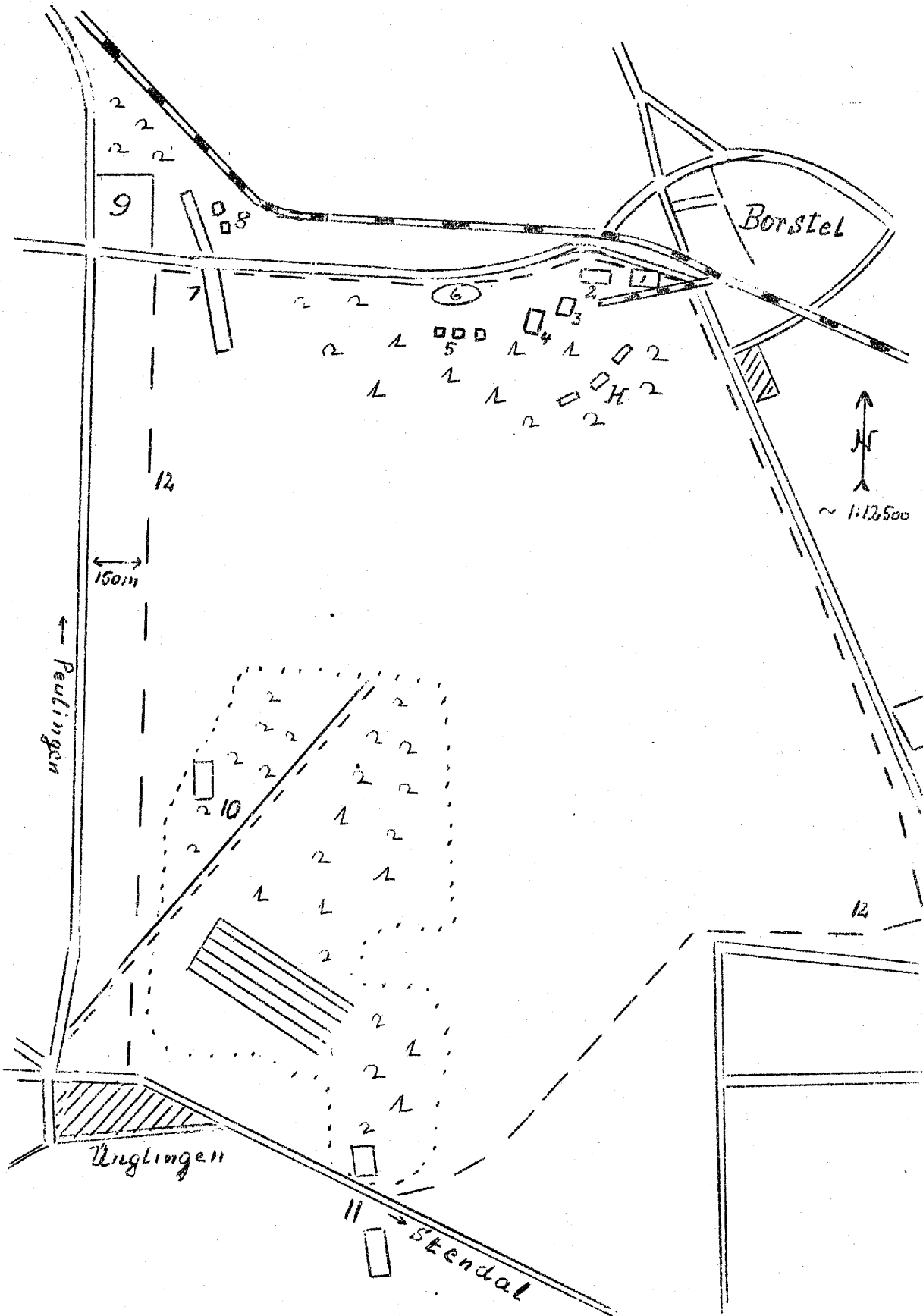
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Annex 1

Stendal-Borstel Airfield

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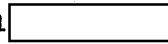
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Annex 1



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Legend:

- 1 Destroyed building
- 2, 3 and 4 Three-story permanent buildings
- 5 Three single-story temporary buildings, 12 to 15 meters long with a kitchen in one of them
- 6 Athletic field
- 7 Concrete field
- 8 Old railroad car
- 9 Ammunition dump (?)
- 10 Four single-story temporary buildings
- 11 Bricks
- 12 Airfield boundaries
- H Three hangars

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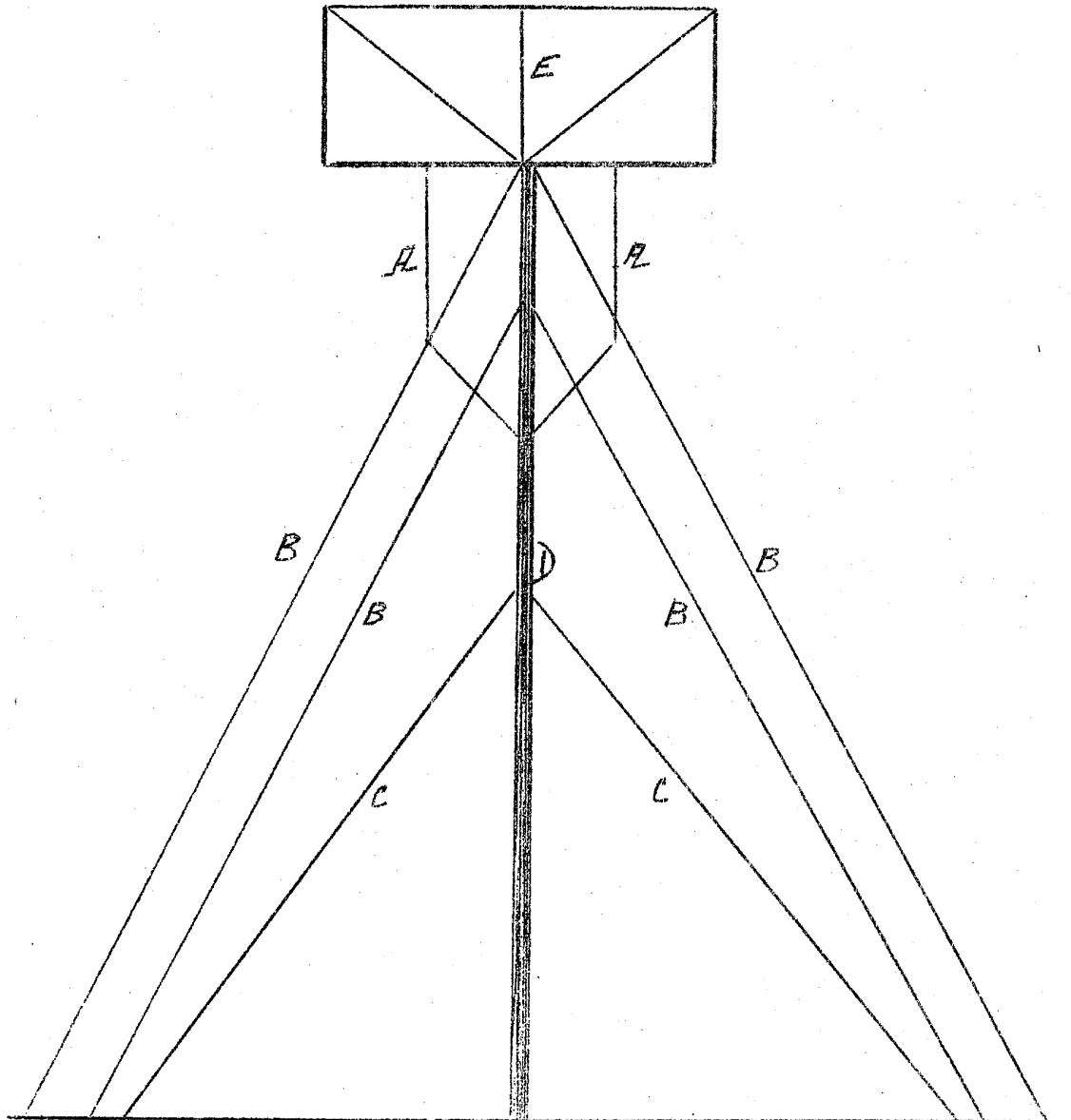
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Annex 2

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Radio Installation at Stendal-Borstel Airfield



Legend:

- A Feed-in cables
- B and C Bracings
- D Mast
- E Antenna

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